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#27  
Replies RCE  
10/17/03

|  |                        |                  |
|--|------------------------|------------------|
| Request<br>For<br>Continued Examination (RCE)<br>Transmittal<br>Address to:<br>Mail Stop RCE<br>Commissioner for Patents<br>P.O. Box 1450<br>Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 | Application Number     | 09/966686        |
|  | Filing Date            | October 1, 2001  |
|  | First Names Inventor   | Michael Austin   |
|  | Art Unit               | 3726             |
|  | Examiner Name          | Marc Jimenez     |
|  | Attorney Docket Number | S63.2N-7405-US02 |
|  |                        |                  |

This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 CFR 1.114 of the above-identified application.  
 Request for Continued Examination (RCE) practice under 37 CFR 1.114 does not apply to any utility or plant application filed prior to June 8, 1995, or to any design application.

## 1. Submission required under 37 CFR 1.114

a.  Previously submitted

- i.  Consider the amendment(s)/reply under 37 CFR 1.116 previously filed on October 6, 2003  
 (Any unentered amendment(s) referred to above will be entered).
- ii.  Consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief or Reply Brief previously filed on \_\_\_\_\_
- iii.  Other \_\_\_\_\_

b.  Enclosed

- i.  Amendment/Reply (Pages \_\_\_\_\_)
- ii.  Affidavit(s)/Declaration(s) (Pages \_\_\_\_\_)
- iii.  Information Disclosure Statement (IDS) (Pages \_\_\_\_\_)
- iv.  Other \_\_\_\_\_

## 2. Miscellaneous

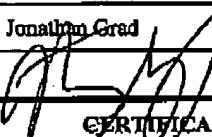
- a.  Suspension of action on the above-identified application is requested under 37 CFR 1.103(c) for a period of \_\_\_\_\_ months. (Period of suspension shall not exceed 3 months; Fee under 37 CFR 1.17(i) required)
- b.  Other \_\_\_\_\_

## 3. Fees

- a.  The RCE fee under 37 CFR 1.17(e) is required by 37 CFR 1.114 when the RCE is filed.  
 The Director is hereby authorized to charge the following fees, or credit any overpayments, to Deposit Account No. 22-0350.
  - i.  RCE fee required under 37 CFR 1.17(c)
  - ii.  Extension of time fee (37 CFR 1.136 and 1.17)
  - iii.  Other: Any other fees necessitated by this communication.
- b.  Check in the amount of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ enclosed
- c.  Payment by credit card (Form PTO-2038 enclosed)

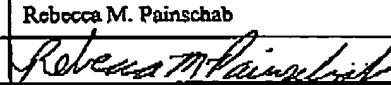
**WARNING:** Information on this form may become public. Credit card information should not be included on this form. Provide credit card information and authorization on PTO-2038.

## SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT REQUIRED

|                   |   |                                   |                  |
|-------------------|---|-----------------------------------|------------------|
| Name (Print/Type) | Jonathan Grad   | Registration No. (Attorney/Agent) | 41795            |
| Signature         |  | Date                              | October 16, 2003 |

## CERTIFICATE OF MAILING OR TRANSMISSION

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner For Patents, Box RCE, Washington, DC 20231, or facsimile transmitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on the date shown below.

|                   |   |      |                  |
|-------------------|---|------|------------------|
| Name (Print/Type) | Rebecca M. Painschab  |      |                  |
| Signature         |  | Date | October 16, 2003 |

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OCT 17 2003

PATENT

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

|                              |   |
|------------------------------|---|
| <b>In Re Application of:</b> | Michael Austin  |
| <b>Application No.:</b>      | 09/966,686  |
| <b>Filed:</b>                | October 1, 2001   |
| <b>For:</b>                  | A Method and Apparatus for Contracting, Loading or Crimping Self-Expanding and Balloon Expandable Stent Devices |
| <b>Examiner:</b>             | Marc Jimenez  |
| <b>Group Art Unit:</b>       | 3726  |

Mail Stop RCE  
 Commissioner for Patents  
 P.O. Box 1450  
 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Docket No.: S63.2-7405-US02

**FACSIMILE TRANSMITTAL LETTER**  
**TO: Examiner Jimenez** **DATE: October 16, 2003**  
**FACSIMILE NO.: 703-872-9303** **TIME: 4:00 pm.**  
**GROUP ART UNIT: 3726**  
**TOTAL NUMBER OF PAGES (including cover letter):** 2

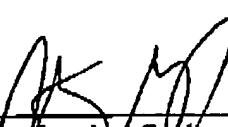
Following please find a 1 page copy of the Request for Continued Examination (RCE) Transmittal and 1 page Facsimile Transmittal Letter.

If a fee is required, Commissioner of Patents is hereby authorized to charge Deposit Account No. 22-0350 for any required fees. To the extent that any petition is required to consider this communication, please treat this as such a petition.

Respectfully Submitted,

VIDAS, ARRETT & STEINKRAUS, P.A.

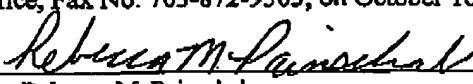
Date: October 16, 2003

By:   
 Jonathan Grad  
 Reg. No. 41,795

6109 Blue Circle Drive, Suite 2000  
 Minnetonka, MN 55343-9185  
 Telephone: (952) 563-3000  
 Facsimile: (952) 563-3001

**Certificate of Transmission**

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the United States Patent and Trademark Office, Fax No. 703-872-9303, on October 16, 2003.

Signature:   
 Rebecca M. Painschab